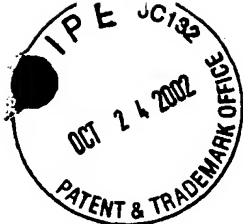


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PATENT

P. TUCK
#7
11/5/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Chow et al.

Serial No.: 10/039,827; Conf. No. 9534

Filed: October 19, 2001

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS
FOR MODULATING ALPHA ADRENERGIC
RECEPTOR ACTIVITY

Examiner: Fay, Z.

Group Art Unit: 1614

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express mail (Label No. (EL385560015US) in an envelope addressed to: Box Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

Date of Deposit: 10/24/2002

Person making Deposit: BONNIE FERGUSON

Signature: *Bonnie Ferguson*

Date of Signature: 10/24/2002

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir,

This communication is in reply to the Office Action mailed July 2, 2002; Applicants have the following comments.

REMARKS

The Examiner has indicated that claim 4-6 are in condition for allowance. Applicants thank the Examiner for so indicating.

Rejection Pursuant to 35 USC §102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 as allegedly anticipated by Chemical Abstracts 532428. This reference discloses that compounds "with diuretic and saluretic activity were prepared" having the structure:



in which R is an optionally substituted phenyl group and R₁, R₂ and R₃ are each selected from a large Markush group of possible substituents. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the following reasons.

The rejected claims are drawn to compositions comprising a single compound and its esters and salts. This compound has the structure: